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# Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05
IO-13 DHA-02 /076 W
---------- 097173 /70
R 222015Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2604
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT EC
SUBJ: GOE NAMES COMMISSIONS FOR TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT

REF: QUITO 8653

1. BY SUPREME DECREE DATED DEC. 17 THE GOE FINALLY NAMED THE THREE COMMISSIONS WHICH WILL PREPARE A DRAFT CONSTITUTIONS AND A NATIONAL REFERENDUM FOR TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. UNDER THE DECREE THE COMMISSIONS MUST HAVE COMPLETED THEIR INTERNAL ORGANIZATION WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS OF BEING SWORN IN, WITH THE SWEARING-IN SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON DEC. 23. AS EXPECTED, THE 42 COMMISSION MEMBERS REPRESENT MOST OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES, LABOR UNIONS, UNIVERSITIES, THE MEDIA, AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS. THE ONLY MILITARY OFFICER IS GENERAL RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ PALACIOS WHO WILL SERVE AS GENERAL COORDINATOR.

2. THE LIBERAL PARTY WAS NOT REPRESENTED, GIVEN ITS DEC 13 DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE WHOLE PROCESS (REFTEL). ON DEC. 17, AFTER THE COMMISSIONS HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED, THE DEMOCRATIC LEFT PARTY ALSO DECLARED ITS DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE. PARTY HEAD JORGE CEVALLOS
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SAID THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSIONS PRECLUDED THEIR PRODUCING REAL CHANGE. CEVALLOS HAS SINCE MET WITH MINGOV JARRIN AND THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT HIS PARTY MAY WELL DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE AFTER ALL.

3. COMMENT: SIX MONTHS AFTER EX-MINGOV LEVOYER FIRST

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ANNOUNCED THE GOE'S PLAN FOR RETORNO THE COMMISSIONS
CALLED FOR IN THAT PLAN HAVE FINALLY BEEN NAMED. THIS IS
THE SECOND MAJOR STEP TOWARDS RETORNO (THE FIRST BEING THE
I.D. CARD ISSUING PROGRAM WHICH IS NOW IN OPERATION). IT
BOLSTERS THE GOE'S SAGGING POLITICAL IMAGE AND HAS IN-
CREASED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE THAT THE TRANSFER OF GOVERNMENT
TO CIVILIANS WILL TAKE PLACE AS PROMISED WHEN THE JUNTA
CAME TO POWER. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE COMMISSIONS,
COMPOSED OF DISPARATE AND OFTEN OPPOSED POLITICAL ELEMENTS,
CAN FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY AND WHETHER THEY CAN PRODUCE
CONSITITUTIONS OR A REFERENDUM PLAN BOTH WORKABLE AND
ACCEPTABLE TO THE JUNTA.
BLOOMFIELD

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# Message Attributes

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**Subject:** GOE NAMES COMMISSIONS FOR TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT
**TAGS:** PINT, EC, (CEVALLOS, JORGE), (RODRIUEZ PALACIOS, RAFAEL)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
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